



Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
Hon Dr John McVeigh MP

Reference: CTS No. 26589/13

20 NOV 2013

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Queensland Parliamentary Services  
Parliament House  
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BRISBANE QLD 4000

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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 2153-13 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 29 October 2013.

In Queensland, the legislation relevant to the welfare of animals is the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* (ACPA). The purpose of the ACPA is to:

- promote the responsible care and use of animals
- provide standards for the care and use of animals
- protect animals from unjustifiable, unnecessary or unreasonable pain
- ensure the use of animals for scientific purposes is accountable, open and responsible.

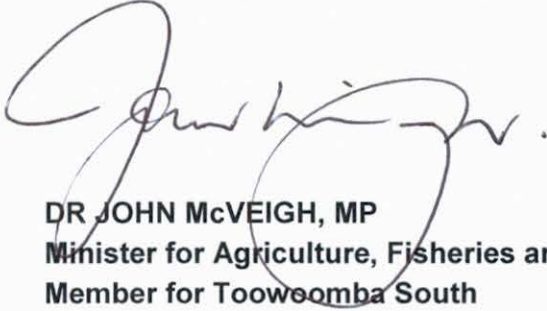
The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring that all animals in Queensland have appropriate standards of welfare, including dogs used for breeding. Acts of animal cruelty will not be tolerated and significant penalties are in place under the ACPA.

I am advised that from an animal welfare perspective, the breeding and raising of animals on a large scale does not represent a breach of the ACPA provided the animals are healthy and cared for properly. Sufficient powers exist under the ACPA to adequately address animal welfare issues associated with puppy farms and backyard breeding.

The Queensland Government will not introduce state-wide legislation to regulate dog breeders as many Queensland councils have local animal management laws and/or development planning requirements that regulate the keeping and control of animals, including those used for breeding.

The Queensland Government is committed to empowering local governments to make decisions at the local level on issues that impact local communities and will not introduce schemes which may overlap or override council arrangements.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John McVeigh', written over a printed name and title block.

**DR JOHN McVEIGH, MP**  
**Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**  
**Member for Toowoomba South**